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Convention to Combat Desertification

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Third session
Recife, 15-26 November 1999
Item 8(f) of the provisional agenda

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES OR INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS TO ASSIST THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES IN REGULARLY REVIEWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Note by the secretariat

1. At its second session, the Conference of the Parties, by decision 10/COP.2, invited Parties to make submissions in writing to the Convention secretariat in anticipation of consideration of this decision, to be received by the secretariat no later than 30 April 1999, and requested the secretariat to compile submissions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its third session (ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1). The Conference also requested the secretariat to include the consideration of decision 10/COP.1 on the agenda for its third session and decided to transmit to its third session the draft decision contained in document ICCD/COP(2)/L.9, proposed by Indonesia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, for consideration in place of document A/AC.241/L.42, referred to in decision 10/COP.1, paragraph 2.

2. The secretariat has received only one submission, from the Government of Germany on behalf of the European Community and its member States.

3. That submission noted that: (a) the Conference of the Parties is assigned the task of regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention; (b) the review process is to be of a regular nature and is to be carried out on the basis of written submissions by the Parties; (c) the review process should alternate between affected country Parties in Africa and in other regions; (d) by decision 11/COP.1 a comprehensive reporting system has been established by which the Parties should comment on all conceptual and strategic issues of the Convention; and (e) the deliberations of the Conference of the Parties on the review of implementation should be facilitated by the compilation and synthesis of the reports prepared by the secretariat.

4. Consequently, the European Union is convinced that there is no need for the creation of a new body.

5. Annex I to the present document contains decision 10/COP.1 for reference and annex II reproduces the draft decision ICCD/COP(2)/L.9 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

Annex I

Decision 10/COP.1

Review of the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 2(a), of the Convention to Combat Desertification,

Recalling also article 24 of the Convention relating to the Committee on Science and Technology and article 26 relating to the communication of information,

1. Decides to continue to consider this decision and take action, at its third session, whether there is a need to establish additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist it in its task of regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention;

2. Decides also to transmit the draft decision contained in document A/AC.241/L.42 to its third session for consideration.

Annex II

Review of the implementation of the Convention

Indonesia*/: draft decision

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 10/COP.1 on the review of the implementation of the Convention,

Recalling also article 22, paragraph 2(a), (b) and (c), as well as articles 24, 26 and 27 of the Convention,

1. Decides to establish a Committee on the review of the implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties;

2. Decides also that the Committee shall be open to participation by all Parties and comprise government representatives familiar with the Convention process;

3. Decides further that the Committee shall report to the Conference of the Parties on all aspects of its work, particularly the assessment and review of the implementation of the Convention through, inter alia, consideration of:

- National reports or information communicated by Parties;
- Reports submitted by the Global Mechanism;
- Reports submitted by the secretariat; and
- Other activities as may be determined by the Conference of the Parties;

4. Stresses that the Committee shall begin its work after the third ordinary session of the Conference in 1999;

5. Stresses also that the composition of the Bureau of the Committee shall be in accordance with the provisions of rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Conference;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention to make all necessary arrangements for the Committee to fulfil its terms of reference and to meet, as appropriate, before, after or in parallel with sessions of the Conference of the Parties.

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*/ On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.